

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 05810 161025Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
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R 160945Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6853
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS KUWAIT 5810

E.O. 11652: N/-
TAGS: XF ENRG, AU
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR'S REPORTED REMARKS ON COMMODITY
PRICE INDEXATION AND MID EAST SETTLEMENT

1. KUWAIT ARABIC DAILY AL RAI AL AMHWKDEC 12) CARRIED WHAT APPEARS TO BE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY. IN IT KREISKY IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE IS BEING APPROACHED WITHOUT A CLEAR CONCEPT IN MIND, AND THAT WHAT IS NEEDED IS A SCHEME TO INDEX RAW MATERIALS PRICES WITH THOSE OF FINISHED PRODUCTS. (HE SUPPORTS THIS IDEA BUT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT IS OPPOSED.) KREISKY SAID THAT "INTELLIGENT INDEXATION" WOULD BE PEGGED ONLY TO SELECTED COMMODITIES.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT ISRAEL'S "ADAMANT ATTITUDE" TOWARD THE PALESTINIANS, KREISKY REPORTEDLY QUOTED GODA MEIR ("THERE ARE NO PALESTINIANS, ONLY ARABS.") AND PREDICTED THAT THE PALESTINIANS WOULD BE INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL. ". IT IS THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIANS TO HAVE A LAND. EVERY PEOPLE HAS

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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 05810 161025Z

A RIGHT TO LAND; THE JEWS CLAIMED A LAND, AND THE ZIONISTS TOO, AND

THEY GOT A LAND." KREISKY IS ASSERTED TO HAVE SAID THAT THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN ISRAEL--"THERE IS FLEXIBILITY"-- AND THAT, ON THE OTHER HAND, IN THE WAKE OF THE LEBANESE "CALAMITY" THE PLO UNDERSTANDS THAT "IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO STICK TO THE IDEA OF SETTING UP A BI-RELIGIOUS STATE. "THE PLO MUST BE PRECISE AND REALISTIC".

3. REGARDING ALLEGED ATTEMPTS BY KREISKY TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS, HE REPORTEDLY SAID: "THAT WAS LAST SUMMER, NOT TODAY; THERE WERE POSSIBILITIES OF CONTACTS WITH AMERICANS AND BRITISH JEWS, NOT ISRAELIS."

4. ON THE OCCASION OF AN (UNDATED, UNSPECIFIED) DINNER IN PARIS, WHERE MENDED FRANCE, GOLDMAN AND OTHERS WERE PRESENT, KREISKY IS REPORTED TO HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE ASKED THE GROUP "WHETHER IT WAS HIGH TIME FOR US TO SUPPORT AN ARAB-ISRELI DIALOGUE." IN THE AL RAI AL AM INTERVIEW HE REPORTEDLY CONCLUDES THAT "IT IS HIGH TIME TO HOLD A DIALOGUE," BUT HE TAKES HIMSELF OUT OF THE BUSINESS OF ORGANIZING IT--"I AM CONCERNED WITH PURELY AUSTRIAN MATTERS... I AM VERY BUSY, FOR ONE THING, AND I DO NOT WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN SUCH MATTERS WHEN I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO FOR MY COUNTRY..."
MAESTRONE

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